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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/668,616	09/23/2003	Robert Paul Lowmaster	1033-SS00412	1504

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EXAMINER	
CHO, HONG SOL	
ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2616	

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
3 MONTHS	02/22/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/668,616	LOWMASTER, ROBERT PAUL	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Hong Cho	2616	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *09/20/2006*.

2a)☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☐ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1,2,5,7,8,10,11,13-16 and 18-32* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1,2,5,7,8,10,11,13-16 and 18-32* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1. This office action is in response to the amendment filed on 09/20/06. Claims 3, 4, 6, 9, 12 and 17 are cancelled. Claims 1, 2, 5, 7, 8, 10, 11, 13-16, and 18-32 are pending in the instant application.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102(e) that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> (e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

3. Claims 1, 7, 8, 11, 13-16, 18-22, 24-27 and 29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Alexander et al (U.S 6798767), hereinafter referred to as Alexander.

Re claims 1, 7 and 29, Alexander discloses a communication network including a plurality of LANs interconnected with a WAN. Alexander discloses IP telephony devices having a unique IP address (*a unique address*) and the capability of encapsulating a user's voice packets into IP packets (*call receipt rule of the electronic device*) so that the voice can be transmitted over LAN, WAN or Internet (*associating an electronic device*

operable to receive a VOIP call with connection information comprising a unique address and a call receipt rule of the electronic device, column 4, lines 1-5). Alexander discloses a call manager controlling and maintaining databases for IP telephony devices on LANs, which are IP networks (*a median server maintaining an information store comprising a first collection of connection information for a first plurality of devices associated with a first managed IP network and a second collection of connection information for a second plurality of devices associated with a second managed IP network*, column 4, lines 26-37; column 8, line 47 to column 9, line 20). A call manager control IP telephony devices on the first managed IP network and the second managed IP network (column 4, lines 26-37). Alexander discloses querying and determining the number of a called device from the list by utilizing mapping table or database with device names and IP addresses of telephony devices on IP networks (*receiving a query on behalf of a device of the second managed internet protocol network, the query seeking appropriate connection information for a called device associated with the first managed IP network and collecting the appropriate connection information from the first collection of connection information*, column 10, lines 38-42; lines 48-56). Alexander discloses a network interface receiving data from and transmits data to IP network (*a network interface engine communicatively coupled to the median server to receive a query seeking appropriate connection information for a called device*, column 6, lines 56-59).

Re claim 7, Alexander discloses a call manager that is not connected to the communication link between callable devices (*the mediation server being independent of*

a communication link between callable devices). Figure 1 shows that a call manager is physically separated from links between callable devices.

Re claim 8, Alexander discloses determining if the called device is associated with the first managed IP network or the second managed IP network (*a retrieval engine collecting the appropriate connection information from the first collection of connection information and the second collection of connection information*, column 4, lines 32-36) and querying and determining the number of a called device from the list and directing the call to the targeted telephony device by utilizing mapping table or database with device names and IP addresses of telephony devices on IP networks (*a communication engine initiating communication of the appropriate connection information to an address associated with the query*, column 10, lines 38-46).

Re claim 11, Alexander discloses connection information comprising an IP address for the called device (*IP telephony device has its own IP address*, column 4, lines 18-20) and a first call receipt rule comprises a preference of the called device (*each packet is encapsulated into IP packets*, column 4, lines 55-56).

Re claim 13, Alexander discloses the network interface not operable for to act as a point of interconnection for either signaling or bearer traffic between the first managed IP network and the second managed IP network (column 6, lines 56-58).

Re claim 14, Alexander discloses mapping PSTN number to the appropriate connection information (column 8, lines 52-55).

Re claim 15, Alexander discloses call manager receiving Voice over Internet Protocol (VOIP) call from a calling telephony device (*receiving a signal indicating a*

request for a call to a party and determining that the call will be at least partially transmitted as an IP call, column 4, line 63 to column 5, line 9). Alexander discloses querying and determining the number of a called device from the list (*querying an information store associated with a managed network to identify a set of connection information for a device associated with the called party*, column 10, lines 38-42; lines 48-56). Alexander discloses determining these telephony devices do not have IP addresses in alternate number list (*determining that the information store does not comprise the set of connection information*, column 9, lines 42-46). Alexander discloses querying a mediation server for the set of connection information (column 7, lines 43-45), the mediation server maintaining a plurality of connection information sets for devices associated with a plurality of managed networks, the mediation server independent of each of the plurality of managed networks (column 4, lines 26-37; column 8, line 47 to column 9, line 20). Figure 1 shows that a call manager is physically separated from manageable networks.

Re claim 16, Alexander discloses that the managed network is a managed IP network, the call comprises a VOIP call, and the managed network received the signal (figure 1).

Re claims 18 and 19, Alexander discloses presenting a calling party with call options comprising a VOIP call option (*making a call to IP telephony device*, column 6, lines 1-2) and a circuit switched call option (*making a call to a PSTN telephony device*, column 5, lines 52-53) and receiving the set of connection information from the mediation server (column 10, lines 38-42) and routing the call in accordance with the set

of connection information in response to receiving the set of connection information from the mediation server (column 5, lines 1-5).

Re claims 20 and 21, Alexander discloses routing a call to a gateway via PBX that converts a packetized data to circuit-switched data when non-IP telephony devices are called (*routing the call to a media gateway for conversion into a time division multiplexing call in response to determining that the set of connection information is unavailable*, column 5, lines 34-37; column 9, lines 42-50; lines 63-67).

Re claim 22, Alexander discloses connection information comprising an IP address for the called device (*IP telephony device has its own IP address*, column 4, lines 18-20) and a first call receipt rule selected from the group consisting of an IP header rule (*each packet has the same destination IP address*, column 4, lines 55-56), a real time transport rule (*the encapsulation is performed by RTP running over UDP*, column 5, lines 6-7), an allowable sample size (*TCP layer divides the data to be transmitted into one or more packets*, column 4, lines 51-54), a network access rule (*transmitting LAN or WAN in necessary*, column 4, lines 49-50), and a supported coding protocol rule (*a codec converts the signals*, column 4, lines 63-66).

Re claim 24, Alexander discloses connection information comprising an IP address for the called device (*IP telephony device has its own IP address*, column 4, lines 18-20) and a first call receipt rule comprises a preference of the called device (*each packet is encapsulated into IP packets*, column 4, lines 55-56).

Re claim 25, Alexander discloses connection information comprising a real time transport rule (*the encapsulation is performed by RTP running over UDP*, column 5, lines 6-7).

Re claim 26, Alexander discloses connection information comprising an allowable sample size (*TCP layer divides the data to be transmitted into one or more packets*, column 4, lines 51-54).

Re claim 27, Alexander discloses connection information comprising a network access rule (*transmitting LAN or WAN in necessary*, column 4, lines 49-50).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 2, 23 and 30-32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Alexander in view of Goodman et al (USPUB 20040208185), hereinafter referred to as Goodman.

Re claims 2, 23, 30, and 31, Alexander discloses a call manager controlling and maintaining databases for IP telephony devices on LANs, which are IP networks (*a median server maintaining an information store comprising a first collection of*

connection information for a first plurality of devices associated with a first managed IP network and a second collection of connection information for a second plurality of devices associated with a second managed IP network, column 4, lines 26-37; column 8, line 47 to column 9, line 20). A call manager control IP telephony devices on the first managed IP network and the second managed IP network (column 4, lines 26-37). Alexander discloses querying and determining the number of a called device from the list by utilizing mapping table or database with device names and IP addresses of telephony devices on IP networks (*receiving a query on behalf of a device of the second managed internet protocol network, the query seeking appropriate connection information for a called device associated with the first managed IP network and retrieving the appropriate connection information from the first collection of connection information*, column 10, lines 38-42; lines 48-56). Alexander fails to disclose initiating communication of the connection information to an address associated with the query, the address indicating an association with the second managed IP network. Goodman discloses retrieving connection information by querying dynamic dialing plan based on call address information (figure 5; paragraph [0040]). It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the system of Alexander to include the feature of providing connection information to a device that sent the query so that the device would communicate with other devices.

Re claim 32, Alexander discloses a call manager controlling and maintaining databases for IP telephony devices on LANs, which are IP networks (*a median server maintaining an information store comprising a first collection of connection information*

for a first plurality of devices associated with a first managed IP network and a second collection of connection information for a second plurality of devices associated with a second managed IP network, column 4, lines 26-37; column 8, line 47 to column 9, line 20). Alexander discloses IP telephony devices having the capability of encapsulating a user's voice into IP packets so that the voice can be transmitted over LAN, WAN or Internet (*connection information comprising a unique address and a call receipt rule of the electronic device*, column 4, lines 1-5).

Claims 5, 10 and 28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Alexander in view of Donley et al (USPUB 20040180646), hereinafter referred to as Donley.

Re claims 5, 10 and 28, Alexander discloses allowing a system administrator to access and edit the alternate number list (column 12, lines 55-58). Alexander fails to disclose receiving credentials from a party making the request and zoning the information store such that allowing the party access to the first collection of connection information does not automatically allow the party access to the second collection of connection information. Donley discloses getting credentials from the subscriber (paragraph [0038]). It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Alexander to include certification and authentication server of Donley so that only an authorized user can edit the connection information which can be separated into a set of information. The motivation is to achieve increased

levels of network security by the process of verifying the identity of a user's eligibility to access and edit the connection information.

Response to Arguments

6. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1, 2, 5, 7, 8, 10, 11, 13, and 18-32 have been considered but they are not persuasive.

Re claims 1 and 23, the applicant argues that Alexander does not disclose a call receipt rule. The examiner respectfully disagrees. A call receipt rule is described in the specification as follows: A call receipt rule may provide information relevant to the capabilities and preferences of a given device and/or network... A receipt rule may include a real time transport protocol/real time control protocol (RTP/RTCP) rule defining, for example, how a device constructs and/or reconstructs data and how codec bit streams are packetized (paragraph [0024]). Based on the above description, Alexander discloses a call receipt rule of encapsulating a user's voice packets into IP packets.

Re claim 7 under 102 rejection, the applicant argues that Alexander does not disclose a mediation server independent of a communication link between callable devices. In reply, figure 1 shows that a call manager is physically separated from links between callable devices.

Re claim 15 under 102 rejection, the applicant argues that Alexander does not disclose a mediation server independent of each of the plurality of managed networks. In

reply, figure 1 shows that a call manager is physically separated from manageable networks.

Therefore, the examiner concludes that the rejection of claims is proper.

Conclusion

7. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no, however, event will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Hong Cho whose telephone number is 571-272-3087. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri during 7 am to 4 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Seema Rao can be reached on 571-272-3174. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-3088. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent

Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

hc
Hong Cho
Patent Examiner
2/20/2007

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